

# YOUNG FARMER PROGRAM

Friday, November 22, 2013

Margarita's – Concord, NH

- UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES -

## PRESENT:

Amy Luit, Kate Harlenes, Cara Peters of Hillsborough County

Amy Gowell Drogue, Brian Matarozzo of Rockingham County

Valerie & Jake Drown, Shawn Bersaw, Jill Dumont, Rebecca Woodard, (Don Ross – visitor) of Merrimack County

Staff: YF Coordinator Maureen Duffy

The group enjoyed a meal at Margarita's prior to the meeting.

YF Chair Valerie Drown brought the meeting to order at 8 p.m.

## I. MINUTES – OCTOBER 17, 2013 minutes

Shawn Bersaw MOTIONED to approve the October 17, 2013 minutes as presented. Amy Gowell Drogue SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

## II. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. Report of the Chair

- **Annual Meeting overview**

YF Chair Drown reported a good turnout for both Discussion Meets. There were five participants in the state Discussion Meet as well as five in the 4-H/FFA competition. Each meet brought about stimulating discussion and a good number of people in the audience. For entertainment the Young Farmers had a pie eating competition, which was well received.

- **YF&R Committee Nomination**

On October 24 the NHFB board of directors voted to not support the NH Young Farmer nominee Amy Gowell Drogue for the AFBF YF&R Committee. This prevented the nomination from going forward to the AFBF for consideration. YF Chair Drown plans on discussing this decision with the board at the December meeting.

- **Formation of Sub-Committee** – in effort to be more productive and efficient it was proposed that the following sub-committees be formed at the January YF meeting: Community Service (*Harvest for All project, Food Bank, etc.*), Promotion & Education (*Ag Literacy Day, Ag Day, fairs, Big E, etc.*), Member Outreach (*FFA Convention, County recruitment*), Legislative (*DC, Legislative Breakfast, public hearings, etc.*) and Fundraising (*Pumpkin Fest, Silent Auction, etc.*)

- **Plans/Objectives for 2014**

YF Chair Drown has the following objectives for 2014: a New England Young Farmer Leadership Conference, an overseas farm tour, representation at the Big E and would also like to strengthen the relationship between the Young Farmers and the NH Farm Bureau board of directors.

An invitation was extended by the Associated Women to attend their Christmas luncheon on December 2 at the Farm Bureau office. YF Chair Drown encouraged members of the group to participate if possible.

## 2. Financials

Shawn Bersaw **MOTIONED** to approve the financials as presented. **Amy Gowell Droque SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

## 3. Harvest for All project

Theo Mongeau was not present to report on the project.

## 4. Christmas Event

The Concord Hospital discouraged the idea of having a group come to the hospital to spread holiday cheer and suggested the Young Farmers consider visiting the Merrimack County Nursing home where there are not as many restrictions. The nursing home is interested in working with the Young Farmers however; no date has been set at this time.

## 5. Silent Auction

Thank you letters and receipts will be sent out within the next week.

## 6. Other Old Business

None

# III. NEW BUSINESS

## 1. Coos County Farm Bureau Young Farmer Get-together

Coos invited the Young Farmers to attend a get-together during the week of January 6. It was determined that many of the Young Farmers are in Texas for the AFBF annual meeting that week.

## 2. AFBF YF&R Leadership Conference

Shawn Bersaw **MOTIONED** to have Amy Gowell Droque and Brian Matarozzo represent New Hampshire at the national YF&R Leadership Conference in Virginia this February. **Jake Drown SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

## 3. Communicator (January/February)

Maureen encouraged the Young Farmers to write or submit a photo for the newspaper.

## 4. Other New Business

### ***Paul Smith Garden Project***

Jill Dumont received a thank you card from Paul Smith School for the garden project the Young Farmers helped fund last spring. The card was passed around for everyone to see.

### ***Granite State Dairy Promotion***

Granite State Dairy Promotion sent the check for \$250 back to the Young Farmers.

Brian Matarozzo **MOTIONED** to deposit the check. **Jake Drown SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

# IV. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted**

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Maureen Duffy, YF Coordinator